

# ALWAYS YES!

## STRONGER

May 5, 2019

Stronger • 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:17 • Message 2

PRAY • 1 CORINTHIANS → 2 CORINTHIANS • SERIES INTRO

*God's power is perfected in weakness!*

THE WORLD IS MESS UP, WEAKNESS IS REAL, VICTORY IS SURE!

ACCUSATION: PAUL CAN'T BE TRUSTED • ILL: PROMISE TO HELP SOMEONE • WHEN PEOPLE DON'T TRUST YOU?

**ALWAYS YES!**

### THREE LEVELS OF UNDERSTANDING

Discerning the past. • Seeing the present. • Trusting the promise.

### THE PAST -- 2 CORINTHIANS 1:12-2:17 (P. 542)

1:12-17 • 1:23-2:13 • 2:17

- Paul **HOPED** for a restored relationship with Corinth.
- Paul **CHANGED** his plans to make **TWO VISITS**.
- The first visit was **TOO PAINFUL**; he left in grief.
- He changed plans to not return and **WROTE** a **LETTER** instead.
- The letter **WORKED**, but division **PERSISTS**.

### THE PRESENT -- THREE LINGERING PROBLEMS

- Some people haven't forgiven Paul's enemy.  
COMMENT ON CHURCH DISCIPLINE AND THE SATANIC SCHEME OF BITTERNESS
- Some people still don't trust Paul.  
( SO HE HAS TO EXPLAIN HIMSELF )
- If people don't trust Paul, they might not trust his message.  
THIS IS THE REAL PROBLEM! • 2 CORINTHIANS 1:17-22

People will let you down, but the **TRINE GOD** never will.DON'T CONFUSE YOUR EXPECTATIONS WITH GOD'S PROMISES!

### THE PROMISE -- 2 CORINTHIANS 2:14-16

AT KEY PLACES, PAUL GETS PERSONAL, HE EXPOSES HIS HEART, AND THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL.  
14 • THANKS! • ALWAYS! • TRIUMPH! •• ENTERING JERUSALEM?! •• 15-16 ? THAT TOOK A DARK TURN.  
SACRIFICE • 51 TIMES, 42 IN PENT.

My aroma is **SACRIFICE**. My sacrifice is **TRIUMPH**!

GENESIS 8:20-21 • EXODUS 29:15-18 •• THE SMELL STARTS BEFORE THE FIRE, JESUS SMELLED LIKE DEATH,  
BUT TO SOME... • "WHEN PEOPLE LOOK AT ME, THE LIFE I LIVE, THEY THINK IT STINKS..."  
THOUGH IT STINKS, GOD IS PLEASED • THOUGH IT STINKS, GOD CALLS IT VICTORY!  
WHO IS EQUAL? JESUS, AND IN HIM ME!! •• ALWAYS!! ••

### TAKE IT HOME

DOES YOUR LIFE STINK? • LET GOD FULFILL HIS PROMISE TO TURN DEATH INTO LIFE, SACRIFICE TO VICTORY!  
COMMUNION: JESUS, YOUR LIFE WAS PAIN... FOR ME. TODAY, I GIVE YOU ME, I SEE SACRIFICE AS VICTORY

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## News & Events at LOC and in our Community!

***Lafayette Community Church exists to help people discover life in Christ.***

We do what we do because we believe God has called us to be a blessing to others, helping make their life better because of the love of Christ. We do what we do because we believe that when we serve others, we discover a little more what abundant life really is. Whether you are discovering life in Christ or you want to help others, you've found a home with us.

### **Gratitude Sunday is Today!**

On the first Sunday of the month, we always celebrate what we call Gratitude Sunday. This Sunday is that Sunday, so prepare your hearts for worshipping God through communion and giving our tithes and offerings.

### **Hope Chapel Outreach May Meal will be Cancelled**

Each month, we serve a meal at Hope Chapel on the second Sunday. However, in May, that's Mother's Day and we don't have enough available volunteers. If you want to help for that week, contact Kyle Benner (765-807-9839).

### **An Evening of Food, Prayer and Worship, June 1**

On Saturday, June 1st, we'll be having a family style potluck at 6pm (bring an entree and a side or dessert), and then we'll move into a time of worship and prayer together from 7-8:15pm. Childcare will be available during that 75 minutes of prayer and worship. Let's enjoy some food, worship, and prayer together!

### **Miami School Partnership**

We are serving hundreds of kids with a weekly Book Swap! The faculty is really pleased and excited about how well received the Swap has been. **Can you help?** The Book Swap runs weekly, and they have also asked for volunteers to read stories to kids or to play board games with them during lunches. Contact Beth Hardy to volunteer: **765-430-9753** or **grace2-8@hotmail.com**.

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